

To the Members of the California Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 745 (Goldberg) without my signature.

School district finances, including personnel salaries and related compensation, should receive thorough public scrutiny; however, this bill essentially duplicates existing reporting requirements.

Currently, the School Accountability Report Card, an annual school assessment, includes fiscal and expenditure data including the percent of budget spent on teacher and administrative salaries. This report card is available to the public via district or county websites, and if not available by the Internet, can be obtained from the district upon request.

To the extent that the bill also creates another reimbursable state mandate with an estimated cost in excess of a half million dollars to provide information already available, this creates an unnecessary expenditure of already scarce education dollars that could be better used in the classroom.

Therefore, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger